

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A material handling vehicle, comprising:

an operator compartment including a floor;

a steering mechanism accessible to an operator standing in both of a fore vehicle direction and an aft vehicle direction;

a fore operator control handle for selecting a direction and a speed of travel, the fore control handle being mounted at a first end of the operator compartment and configured for operation in the fore vehicle direction;

an aft operator control handle for selecting a direction and a speed of travel, the aft operator control handle comprising a twist grip handle mounted to a second end of the compartment and configured for operation in the aft vehicle direction;

a floor switch mounted to the floor in a position accessible by an operator using the fore control handle and the aft control handle, and

a traction system controlled by the fore and aft operator control handles to drive the material handling vehicle in a selected direction, wherein the steering mechanism is mounted to be accessible to an operator facing the first end of the operator compartment and controlling the fore operator control handle and to an operator facing the second end of the compartment and

controlling the aft operator control handle, and the ~~foot~~ floor switch is selectively activatable to enable operation from both the fore operator control handle and the aft operator control handle.

2. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the fore operator control handle is a multi-function control handle.

3. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the aft operator control handle includes a smooth outer grip.

4. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 3, wherein the smooth outer grip is a thermoplastic.

5. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the second handle includes recessed grooves.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the aft operator control handle is mounted at an angle as referenced to the side of the compartment selected to be substantially perpendicular of the arm of the operator when operating the control.

8. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the steering mechanism is a steering wheel mounted to the compartment to allow an operator to rotate the steering wheel when using either the fore operator control handle or the aft operator control handle.

9. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the aft operator control handle is mounted to the compartment a distance from the floor selected to provide a comfortable grip for users of varying heights.

10. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 9 wherein the distance from the floor is substantially thirty-eight inches.

11. (Previously Presented) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 1, wherein the aft operator control handle includes a horn actuator for activating a horn.

12. (Previously Presented) An operator compartment for a material handling vehicle comprising:

a first control handle mounted for access by an operator facing a first direction;

a second control handle mounted for access by an operator facing a second direction, the second control handle being mounted to be a distance from a floor of the

compartment and at an angle referenced to a side of the compartment selected to be perpendicular to the arm of the operator while in use;

a floor switch positioned on a floor of the compartment in a location selected to be accessible by an operator using the first control handle and the second control handle to enable operation from both the first and second control handles; and

a steering wheel positioned in the compartment in a location selected to be accessible by an operator facing the first direction and using the first control handle and to an operator facing the second direction and using the second control handle, wherein the first handle is rotational in the first direction for motion in a first vehicle direction and the second handle is rotatable in the second direction for motion in a second vehicle direction.

13. (Original) The material handling vehicle of claim 12, wherein the first and second vehicle directions are the fore and aft directions of the vehicle.

14. (Original) The material handling vehicle of claim 12 wherein the second control handle is substantially horizontal.

15. (Original) The material handling vehicle of claim 12 wherein the distance from a floor is substantially thirty-eight inches.

16. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 12, wherein the first and second control handles are each rotational around a substantially horizontal axis.

17. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 12, wherein each of the first and second control handles are rotational in the second and first directions, respectively, to provide a control signal indicative of motion in the direction opposite the direction the operator is facing.

18. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 12, wherein the second control handle is a twist grip handle.

19. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 13, wherein the angle is substantially seventy degrees.

20. (Original) The material handling vehicle as defined in claim 13, wherein the second control handle comprises a horn actuator.

21-33. (Cancelled)